GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:60
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
CHILD MARRIAGE
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the lack of education is the main factor for child marriages in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1976 is not being implemented effectively in some States;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the States where this practice is more prevalent; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the proper implementation of the said Act in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c),(d)&(e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 60 FOR 14.8.2007 BY SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI REGARDING CHILD MARRIAGE

(a)&(b) As per provisional results of National Family Health Survey-III (NFHS-III) − (2005-06), at all India level 44.5% of the women aged between 20-24 are married by 18 years of age and 71.6% of these women did not have any education.

(c),(d)&(e) In order to prohibit child marriages and to provide for more effective and stringent punishment for offenders, a new legislation "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006" has been enacted and notified on 11th January, 2007. Also awareness generation and advocacy measures are continuously being undertaken by the Ministry for this purpose.